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## Lake County Youth to Serve as Panelists on Youth Workforce Issues at Washington, D.C. Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Three members from the Lake County Workforce Investment Board youth council were invited to serve as panelists at a national conference to be held March 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup> at the Washington, D.C. Renaissance Hotel. The National Association of Workforce Investment Boards sponsors the Washington, D.C. conference, with over 1,400 individuals from across the nation expected to attend.

Israel Aviles, a senior at Zion-Benton Township High School, Emily Fischer, a junior at Libertyville High School, and Tavarez Hughes, a Waukegan resident who completed a workforce preparation program are members of the youth council, a committee of the Lake County Workforce Investment Board.

The Workforce Investment Board's mission is to help businesses solve workforce problems and help individuals with career transitions. The youth council advises the board on youth strategic planning and policy issues and makes program-funding recommendations.

"Our Lake County youth were invited to serve on a panel discussion that we developed on how to bring youth to the table," said Arnold Silberman, Chairman of the Lake County Workforce Investment Board, who will also co-facilitate the discussion.

The panel discussion planned for Washington, D.C. will address how successful organizations seek customer input to improve their services. Youth on the panel will discuss how Lake County has found success by blending the experience of older members with the ideas and energy of young counterparts.

"Lake County is noted for having the full and active participation of youth on our council in addition to the participation of representatives from education, community organizations, business, labor and government," Silberman added.

In addition to the panel discussion, Lake County Workforce Investment Board representatives, including the three panelists, scheduled visits with Congressman Mark Kirk and Congressman Phil Crane to discuss workforce issues and policy.